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SPECIAL MEETING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CULTURAL COUNCIL AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL

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FINAL ACT

Bogotá, Colombia - August 4 - 10, 1963

PAN AMERICAN UNION
General Secretariat,
Organization of American States
Washington, D. C. 1963

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FINAL ACT
OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CULTURAL COUNCIL AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL

The Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level was held in Bogotá, Colombia, from August 4 to 10, 1963.

On May 13, 1963, the Ambassador Representative of Colombia on the Council of the Organization of American States addressed a note to the Chairman of the Council, requesting that a special meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the ministerial level be convoked in Bogotá, taking advantage of the dates of the Third Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education. In this note, the Ambassador stated that the Colombian Government had discussed the proposal with several of the member states of the Organization and that it was found justified, since there had been no meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council since 1959. The need for such a meeting was becoming increasingly evident, now that certain aspects and matters within the field of competence of the Council required consideration by representatives at the highest level. The note added that the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States had received from the Education Task Force a report containing recommendations that should be examined as soon as possible by the Inter-American Cultural Council, and that there was no doubt that the results would be more significant and valuable if the ministers were involved in bringing them about.

The reasons set forth in the note justified the convocation of a special meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the ministerial level, under the terms of Article 20 of the Council's statutes. Furthermore, the Committee for Cultural Action, permanent committee of the Inter-American Cultural Council, recognized that it was advisable and essential to hold a special meeting of the Council at the ministerial level, in view of the urgent need to study the educational, scientific, and cultural problems of Latin America and to find prompt and positive solutions thereto.

Taking these factors into account, the Council of the Organization of American States, at its meeting of July 18, 1963, resolved to convoke a special meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the ministerial level, to be held during the Third Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education. At that session, the Council of the Organization set aside for the attention of the Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level the topic on structure and organization of the educational, scientific, and cultural services of the Organization of American States, previously adopted as a topic on the agenda of the Third Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education. The agenda of the Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level was therefore as follows:

Structure and organization of the educational, scientific, and cultural services of the OAS, and

Report of the General Secretariat on the educational, scientific, and cultural programs of the OAS and on the recommendations of the Education Task Force.

The meeting was held at the National Capitol, which was graciously made available by the Colombian Senate and House of Representatives.

The meeting, which several times worked simultaneously with the Third Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education, held a preliminary session, a plenary session, and a closing session.

At the preliminary session it was agreed that Pedro Gómez Valderrama, Minister of Education of Colombia, would be elected chairman of the meeting, and Jaime Torres Bodet, Secretary for Public Education of Mexico, would be elected vice chairman. It was agreed that a special committee of the meeting should be established, with Reinaldo Leandro Mora, Minister of Education of Venezuela, as chairman, Juan E. Pivel Devoto, Minister of Public Education and Social Welfare of Uruguay, as vice chairman, and Ernesto Rojas y Benavides, of the Mexican Delegation, as rapporteur. At that same session the order of precedence was established by lot; the work plan of the meeting was decided upon; and the closing date of the meeting was set.

At the plenary session consideration was given to matters presented by the special committee, which met twice. The officers of the Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level were:

CHAIRMAN	Pedro Gómez Valderrama	(Colombia)
VICE CHAIRMAN	Jaime Torres Bodet	(Mexico)
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	Jaime Posada	(PAU)
SECRETARY OF THE MEETING	Santiago Ortiz	(PAU)
HOST COUNTRY COORDINATOR	Delio Ramírez	(Colombia)

Special Committee

Chairman	Reinaldo Leandro Mora	(Venezuela)
Vice Chairman	Juan E. Pivel Devoto	(Uruguay)
Rapporteur	Ernesto Rojas y Benavides	(Mexico)

Committee for Cultural Action

Chairman	C. Vianna Moog	(Brazil)

Style Committee

Brazil
Ecuador
Haiti
Nicaragua
United States of America

José A. Mora, Secretary General of the Organization of American States, and Jaime Posada, Assistant Secretary for Cultural, Scientific, and Informational Affairs, participated in the meeting. It was also attended by C. Vianna Moog, Chairman of the Committee for Cultural Action.

The meeting approved the report of the Committee on Credentials in which it stated that it had found in good order the credentials of those whose names appear in the list of participants, published as Appendix I to this Final Act. The order of precedence established by lot at the preliminary session was as follows:

1. Bolivia
2. Paraguay
3. Mexico
4. Peru
5. Dominican Republic
6. United States of America
7. Venezuela
8. Guatemala
9. El Salvador
10. Nicaragua
11. Honduras

12. Uruguay
13. Brazil
14. Argentina
15. Panama
16. Chile
17. Haiti
18. Ecuador
19. Costa Rica
20. Colombia

The Final Act was signed at the closing session, during which the following persons spoke: Jaime Posada, Assistant Secretary for Cultural, Scientific and Informational Affairs of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States; Humberto Henríquez, Chairman of the Delegation of Chile, who spoke on behalf of the visiting delegations; and Alvaro Herrán Medina, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Acting Foreign Minister,who--on behalf of Guillermo León Valencia, President of Colombia--officially closed the meeting.

As a result of its discussions and work, the meeting approved the resolutions, recommendations, motions, and votes that appear on the following pages. The English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish texts of the Final Act shall be coordinated at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States by representatives designated by the countries that are members of the Style Committee, from among their delegations to the Organization of American States.

Style Committee

The Style Committee was composed of the following members:

Brazil	José Barreiros
Ecuador	Lucindo Almeida
Haiti	Fern D. Baguidy
Nicaragua	Alvaro Rizo Castellón
United States of America	Myron Brockway Lawrence

The committee, which was presided over by José Barreiros, the representative of Brazil, held several meetings at the Pan American Union. After a very careful study of the Spanish text of the Final Act, the committee made the changes in style needed to simplify the task of coordinating the four texts. The terminology was made uniform, titles and quotations were checked, the language used was simplified and made more precise, and some changes in syntax were introduced for the sake of clarity. The French, English, and Portuguese versions were then coordinated with the Spanish text. The results of the work by the Style Committee have been embodied in this document and in the corresponding documents in the other three languages.

I

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REORGANIZING THE INTER-AMERICAN CULTURAL COUNCIL AND THE SERVICES OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND CULTURE OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

A. NEW STRUCTURE OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CULTURAL COUNCIL

In view of the evident need to give the Inter-American Cultural Council and its representative and executive bodies the adequate structure and authority to better fulfill the functions assigned to them by the Charter of the Organization of American States, and to direct and carry out, as effectively as possible, the policies and programs of the Alliance for Progress, within their sphere of competence, the Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level requests the Council of the Organization of American States to amend the statutes of the Inter-American Cultural Council along the following general lines:

Process of evaluation

1. Without prejudice to the objectives assigned to it by the Charter of the Organization of American States and by its statutes, one of the functions of the Inter-American Cultural Council shall be to examine the progress made by each of the member states in implementing the plans and programs adopted by them for the development of education, science, and culture and for the integration of these aspects with their over-all development planning.

2. In accordance with the guidelines that the Executive Secretariat of the Council, after consulting the Committee for Cultural Action, shall transmit to the ministers of education of the member states, each minister of education shall annually prepare a national report on the basis of which the cultural development of each country can be evaluated and compared.

3. The Committee for Cultural Action, in its capacity as Permanent Committee of the Council, and with the cooperation of groups of experts and of the Executive Secretariat, shall use these reports to prepare a comparative annual report on the status of education, science, and culture in the Americas. This should include a chapter summarizing: a. major accomplishments and problems of development in the fields of education, science, and culture; and b. the promptness and effectiveness with which institutional and administrative reforms are being adopted and the manner in which internal and external technical and financial resources are being put to use. This annual report shall also include the results of the evaluation of the manner in which each country has fulfilled the goals adopted within the framework of its general development plans and the objectives of the Alliance for Progress and has applied the procedures established by the Inter-American Cultural Council and by other competent organs of the Organization of American States, with respect to education, science, and culture.

4. Using the aforementioned annual report as a working document, and in meetings conducive to spontaneous and frank participation on the part of the delegates and to realistic and specific recommendations, the Inter-American Cultural Council shall analyze the contents of the report and decide upon its adoption.

5. The annual report as finally accepted by the Inter-American Cultural Council shall be transmitted to the appropriate authorities of each member state and to the Inter-American Economic and Social Council for its consideration in connection with its annual evaluation and report on the economic and social progress of Latin America; it shall also be transmitted to other institutions and organizations as directed by the Inter-American Cultural Council.

Information

6. With due respect for individual liberty and for the sovereignty of each state, the Committee for Cultural Action, with the cooperation of the Executive Secretariat, shall keep itself informed as to the way in which governments, international agencies, and other organizations interested in accelerating the development of education, science, and culture in Latin America through technical and financial assistance are following the recommendations made to them.

Review of the Organization of American States programs

7. The work programs of the Pan American Union and of other agencies of the Organization of American States in fields that concern the Inter-American Cultural Council and are within its competence shall be reviewed, evaluated and commented upon by this Council at its periodic meetings. In its capacity as an organ of the Council of the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Cultural Council shall make to it the recommendations necessary for the adequate and increasing development of programs and budgets of the Pan American Union related to education, science, and culture.

Composition of the Inter-American Cultural Council

8. The members of the Inter-American Cultural Council shall be the Ministers of Education of the member states of the Organization of American States or their equivalents. When they cannot attend the meetings of the Council or of its committees, they shall arrange for high-ranking officials to represent them.

9. In addition to the titular representative, each government shall designate alternate representatives, as well as counselors and advisers qualified to act as spokesmen for the various branches of education, science, and culture.

Schedule of Meetings of the Inter-American Cultural Council

10. The Inter-American Cultural Council shall hold an annual meeting, reasonably in advance of the annual meeting of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council. Every two years, however, this meeting shall be at the ministerial level.

Committees and Boards of the Inter-American Cultural Council

11. The Committee for Cultural Action, with headquarters in Mexico City, shall function as the Permanent Committee of the Inter-American Cultural Council.

12. The Council shall form as many committees as it deems necessary, to which its own members shall be assigned. In forming committees, preference shall be given to those on education, science, and culture.

13. The Committee for Cultural Action may sponsor, with the cooperation of the Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Cultural Council, whatever seminars, meetings of experts, and working groups can best contribute to the proper functioning of that Permanent Committee.

The Committee for Cultural Action

14. In addition to the five members of the Committee for Cultural Action, selected in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Cultural Council shall each year invite four states, including the one whose minister is the chairman of the Council, individually to accredit a person to collaborate with the members in the work of the Committee for Cultural Action.

Meetings of the Committee for Cultural Action

15. The Committee for Cultural Action shall hold two meetings a year at its headquarters and special meetings, when necessary to its duties, in such places as the members may decide by majority vote.

The Secretariat of the Inter-American Cultural Council and the Executive Secretary

16. The Inter-American Cultural Council shall have a Secretariat headed by its Executive Secretary, who shall serve as liaison between the Council and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States.

B. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE INTER-AMERICAN CULTURAL COUNCIL AND ITS PERMANENT COMMITTEE AND THE INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

1. An effective coordination of the functions and activities of the Inter-American Cultural Council and the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, as well as the active participation of the Inter-American Cultural Council in orienting and administering the policies of the Alliance for Progress is recommended. To this end, it is suggested that the Chairman of the Inter-American Cultural Council, or the person exercising his functions, be a member of the permanent committee or of whatever similar body the Inter-American Economic and Social Council may establish in due course.

C. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

1. It is recommended that, as soon as possible, and in accordance with the procedures indicated in the Charter of the Organization of American States, the Secretary General of the Organization of American States establish a Department of Educational Affairs, taking into account the importance of centralizing and thereby avoiding duplication of functions in the field of education now assigned to various offices of the Pan American Union.

D. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND CULTURE AND THE PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION

1. It is recommended that the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States urge the administrative bodies of the Program of Technical Cooperation to include in that program as many specific projects as possible in the fields of education, science, and culture, designed to carry out the resolutions and recommendations adopted by the Third Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education and by the Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level.

2. It is recommended that the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States review the Fellowship Program, in the light of its new relations with the programs of education, science, and culture, and that it find new criteria and procedures for better and more suitable distribution of the fellowships.

E. THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING

1. The Inter-American Cultural Council, in view of the recommendations adopted at this special meeting at the ministerial level, considers that the activities presently being carried on by the Special Committee of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council on Education and Training might better be performed by the Committee for Cultural Action. For this reason, and for the best distribution of functions among the various organs of the inter-American system, it suggests to the Inter-American Economic and Social Council that, at its next meeting, it consider the advisability of eliminating that special committee.

F. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP ON THE COMMITTEE FOR CULTURAL ACTION

1. It is recommended that the member states, in drawing up their slates of candidates for membership on the Committee for Cultural Action or in appointing the collaborating members, select persons of recognized experience in the field of education, science, and culture as related to Latin American development.

G. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR CULTURAL ACTION

1. It is recommended that the Committee for Cultural Action, within a period of six months, submit to the member states a detailed report of its work, and that it make whatever concrete proposals it deems advisable, in accordance with the recommendations approved by this special meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the ministerial level.

II

PROTECTION OF COPYRIGHT AND OF CULTURAL ACTIVITY IN GENERAL

WHEREAS:

It is necessary to protect intellectual creativity through legislation appropriate to the legal circumstances of each case;

Implicit in this protection is the protection of copyright as a legitimate right that should be maintained and broadened to the maximum; and

In line with these guiding principles, Immediate Action Project No. 20, presented by the Education Task Force, has set forth basic standards for putting this aspect of the Alliance for Progress program into full effect,

The Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level

RECOMMENDS:

That the member states bring their copyright legislation up to date and that the adequate functioning of authors' societies be encouraged, since these organizations help to support the enforcement of legislation on the matter.

III

MEETINGS AT THE TECHNICAL LEVEL ON CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS:

In the field of inter-American cooperative action, education, science, and culture should be developed side by side;

Meetings of a technical nature have become common in the inter-American system, since they have shown their effectiveness as instruments for comparison, coordination, and collaboration in similar activities and undertakings, and have become indispensable sources of information and reference for the conclusion of agreements at a higher level;

One of the functions assigned to the Inter-American Cultural Council by the Charter of the Organization of American States is to collect and supply information on cultural activities carried on in the American states, including those of national and international private and official agencies; and

In the field of education and science, the Organization of American States has sponsored and is sponsoring meetings of specialists, with highly practical results, which makes it advisable that these same benefits be extended to the promotion of letters, the fine arts, music, the theater, and, in general, to all the creative manifestations that constitute the cultural heritage of America,

The Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend to the Pan American Union that it sponsor periodic meetings at the technical level of professional persons and specialists in the various branches of cultural activity, including meetings of librarians and museum curators.

2. To further recommend to the Pan American Union that, as soon as possible, it hold a meeting of directors of cultural affairs or of officials responsible for promoting and stimulating letters, the visual arts, music, the theater, the ballet, and other cultural activities, on the national and international levels.

IV

SUPPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR IN LA PAZ, BOLIVIA

WHEREAS:

Bolivia has announced that it plans to hold an international book fair in La Paz, in September 1964;

The Bolivian Ministry of Education has invited the American republics to take part in this fair by submitting samples of their general book production; and

Book fairs contribute to the development of education, science, and culture and therefore deserve the support of national and international organizations,

The Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend to the member states that they take part in the book fair to be held in La Paz, Bolivia, in September 1964.

2. To recommend to the Pan American Union that it continue cooperating in the preparations and holding of this fair.

V

TRAINING OF WOMEN AND AID TO THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

WHEREAS:

Since its creation at the Sixth International Conference of American States, held in Havana in 1928, the Inter-American Commission of Women has recommended to the American governments, in resolutions approved at various assemblies, greater equality of educational opportunities, and that pertinent provisions be included in the national constitutions, thus raising one of the basic principles of democracy to the status of a constitutional precept;

In these resolutions, the Inter-American Commission of Women has urged the American governments to give special consideration, in their educational policies, to the situations that deprive the school-age population, especially girls and young women, of the opportunity to receive the education required at all levels; and

Resolution III, "The Inter-American Commission of Women and the Alliance for Progress", adopted by the Third Special Assembly of that organization, stated that the women of the Americas can be a determining factor in carrying out the plans of the Alliance for Progress, and that this tremendous effort deserves the enthusiastic support of the Inter-American Commission of Women,

The Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the member states:

1. That those that have not yet done so consider as points of vital importance within their national programs those concerning:

   a. The democratic training of women leaders, and
   b. The education of rural women.

2. That they give their complete support to all the activities for these purposes carried on by the Inter-American Commission of Women.

VI

INTER-AMERICAN CULTURAL FUND

(Biblioteca de América)

WHEREAS:

It is essential to preserve and disseminate the cultural heritage of the Americas;

The promotion of culture is a fundamental part of the economic and social development of the hemisphere;

It is the essential responsibility of the Inter-American Cultural Council to promote friendly relations and mutual understanding among the peoples of the Americas through the promotion of cultural exchange, and to this end it should work for the protection, preservation, and growth of the cultural heritage of the hemisphere; and

The task of increasing the dissemination of inter-American culture is impeded by a lack of funds, which must therefore be supplemented,

The Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend to the Pan American Union that it invite the governments of the member states to establish, as soon as possible, an inter-American publications fund, for the purpose of contributing to the financing of an inter-American publications program.

2. To authorize the Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Cultural Council to prepare draft statutes for the fund, which shall be entitled "Biblioteca de América" (Library of the Americas), and also to prepare a printing and distribution plan for consideration by the governments, in connection with the aims set forth in the foregoing paragraph.

3. To recommend to the fund, once it is established, that it use the list of representative works of the American countries, prepared by the Committee for Cultural Action, in the selection of books to be published.

4. To recommend, also, that the draft statutes be accompanied by an estimate of printing costs and a detailed report on the editorial needs that may have to be met.

5. To request the Council of the Organization of American States to hold a special meeting to consider approval of the statutes of the inter-American fund "Biblioteca de América."

VII

CULTURAL EXCHANGE AND THE PROFESSORSHIP PROGRAM OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

WHEREAS:

Better and more thorough understanding in each of the American countries of the culture of the other countries of the hemisphere is essential,

The Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the member states that they use the services offered by the Professorship Program of the Organization of American States so that a systematic exchange of professors may increase and improve cultural relations among the American peoples.

VIII

EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS AND THE EFFECTS OF POLITICAL CHANGES

WHEREAS:

Education, science, and culture are the fruits of perseverance, which may only be achieved through sustained, uninterrupted effort on the part of competent, specially trained teams;

Any outside interference, such as political changes, disturbs and decreases the effectiveness of this type of work; and

In order to attain the high cultural, artistic, scientific and technical goals sought, it is essential to exclude interference by these outside influences and to keep political changes from interrupting the continuity of educational, scientific and cultural work,

The Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the member states:

That operational and professional stability be maintained in the fields of education, science, and culture, since this is the only way in which the fruits of intellectual and spiritual creativity may be safeguarded for the permanent cultural benefit of the Americas.

IX

REVISION OF THE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

WHEREAS:

The Fellowship Program of the Organization of American States was created for the purpose of cooperating with the countries of the Americas in their plans for the specialization, technical preparation, and advanced training of national personnel; and

Within the American regional community the economically less developed countries have the fewest trained personnel,

The Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend to the Council of the Organization of American States that it revise the present system for granting fellowships so that primary attention will be given to the needs of the countries' development programs.

2. To recommend that in granting fellowships to equally qualified candidates, priority be given to those who are working on specific projects within national development plans and who are also serving the needs of higher education in the member states.

3. To recommend to the Council of the Organization of American States that it revise the standards for the presentation of candidates for fellowships so that, in addition to applications by interested individuals, governments or national agencies responsible for the administration of fellowships may also present candidates.

4. To recommend that the countries be kept regularly and officially informed about the awarding of fellowships to their citizens, including information about the job the candidate holds, the field of study for which the fellowship has been granted, the place where study is to be undertaken, and the duration of the fellowship.

X

INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM FOR PROMOTING THE TEACHING OF THE BASIC SCIENCES

The Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The provisions of Resolution A-1 (Ten-year Education Program of the Alliance for Progress), appended to the Charter of Punta del Este;

The recommendations of the inter-American conferences on the teaching of science (mathematics, physics, and biology); and

The recommendations contained in Immediate Action Projects Nos. 10 and 18, and in Chapter VII of the report of the Education Task Force; and

CONSIDERING:

That it is highly important to promote the teaching of science and scientific and technological research in order to hasten economic and social progress;

That it is advisable through the Organization of American States to establish a coordinated regional program to promote the teaching of science in Latin America;

That the Program of Technical Cooperation of the Organization of American States is an appropriate means through which to establish regional training programs; and

That the Secretary General of the Organization of American States is responsible for presenting technical cooperation projects to the annual meeting of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States to draw up a regional program for promoting the teaching of science so that it may be presented to the next meeting of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council.

2. To state that the objectives of the inter-American regional program for promoting the basic sciences should be: to organize refresher courses for teachers of science in the first years of university courses and for secondary school science teachers; to organize seminars for inspectors and supervisors of science teaching; to advise governments and institutions that so request; to prepare teaching materials; and, in short, to undertake all those activities that may contribute to training the scientific and technical personnel so urgently needed. In undertaking this program, full use would be made of the facilities and institutions already in existence in the Americas. The Pan American Union would be responsible for the administration and supervision of the program. The office of the official responsible for the direct technical supervision of the program would be located in some Latin American institution.

3. To request the Secretary General to transmit to the Inter-American Economic and Social Council the present recommendation of this meeting that the program be considered one of great usefulness and one that should be given high priority within the Ten-year Education Program established in Resolution A-1 appended to the Charter of Punta del Este.

XI

EXPANSION AND COORDINATION OF SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES IN LATIN AMERICA

WHEREAS:

The Ten-year Education Program of the Alliance for Progress; several of the immediate action projects prepared by the Education Task Force of the Organization of American States and recommended by the Organization of American States and the Conference on Education and Economic and Social Development in Latin America, held in Santiago, Chile; the Declaration of Caracas; and a substantial number of the recommendations of the Organization of American States and UNESCO programs for 1963-1964 stress the promotion and coordination of scientific research, education, and other scientific activities;

No adequate information is available regarding the scientific activities of research, education, documentation, information, and dissemination of knowledge;

With few exceptions, there does not exist on an inter-American scale either the necessary cooperation among institutions engaged in scientific activities or the indispensable coordination of such activities;

As a result, there is unnecessary duplication of effort in research and in other scientific activities, which should be avoided; and

It is essential to improve the quality of basic science instruction at the secondary and university levels, in order to stimulate the development of scientific research,

The Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level

RECOMMENDS:

To the Council of the Organization of American States:

1. That it establish, as soon as possible, an Inter-American Science Advisory Committee whose principal functions will be to gather information on, evaluate, promote, guide, and coordinate the scientific activities of the member states of the Organization of American States. This Committee should be composed of a limited number of scientists--ten, for example--elected in an individual capacity, with a view to their scientific ability and in such a way that the different areas of science and technology as well as the various levels of scientific development in the member states will be represented. The members of the Committee for the first term shall be elected by the Council of the Organization of American States from a list of names submitted by the General Secretariat in consultation with the respective member states. Subsequently, the membership shall be renewed in alternate years through the election of one half of the members. This election shall be conducted by the Advisory Committee in accordance with its regulations. Each member's term of office shall not exceed four years.

2. That it designate the Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Cultural Council to act, through the Department of Scientific Affairs of the Pan American Union, as permanent secretariat of the Inter-American Science Advisory Committee, and that it allot to it the necessary funds to fulfill this duty efficiently.

3. That it instruct the Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Cultural Council, after consulting with the appropriate institutions of the member states, to prepare draft regulations for the committee and to submit these to the Council of the Organization of American States for approval.

To the member states of the Organization of American States:

1. That they prepare and strengthen advanced training programs for secondary level and university science teachers through special regional and national courses. These courses should be given by university level science teachers.

2. That they establish institutions of higher education in the basic sciences where they do not yet exist.

3. That they establish national councils of scientific and technical research, where they do not yet exist, along the lines of the councils already successfully functioning in some of the American countries.

4. That, when they feel it advisable, they use the technical advisory services of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and of other international organizations for putting the two preceding recommendations into effect.

5. That they increase the budgets assigned to pure and applied scientific research, according to the principles set forth at numerous inter-American specialized conferences and meetings, such as the Seminar on the Organization of Scientific Research in Latin America and those of the Inter-American Nuclear Energy Commission.

REQUESTS:

UNESCO, the Scientific Advisory Committee of the United Nations, national and other international organizations concerned with promoting scientific activities, and foundations interested in these activities to cooperate as fully as possible in the achievement of the aims set forth in this recommendation.

XII

INFORMATION ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL OFFICES OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

WHEREAS:

It is necessary to maintain closer and more frequent contact between the Pan American Union and the government and private institutions in the member states that carry on work to promote and encourage science, letters, and the arts,

The Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States that it entrust to the appropriate official of each of its national offices, or to a person distinguished in the intellectual circles of each member state, the task of informing the Pan American Union of the activities of hemisphere-wide interest that are being carried out in his country to promote progress in the fields of science, the arts, and letters, and of informing local institutions and agencies of a cultural character, particularly the ministries of education and the universities, of similar activities being carried out by the Pan American Union and in the other countries of the hemisphere.

XIII

VOTE OF THANKS

The Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level

RESOLVES:

To express its sincere appreciation to the Government and people of Colombia for the warm welcome they have given the representatives on the Council and for the innumerable courtesies and attentions they have extended to them.

XIV

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS

The Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate Dr. Pedro Gómez Valderrama, Chairman of the Inter-American Cultural Council and Representative of Colombia, on the manner in which he has conducted the deliberations of the meeting.

2. To congratulate the officers of the Special Committee of the Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level on the manner in which they have contributed to the success of the meeting.

3. To congratulate the Executive Secretary, Dr. Jaime Posada, and the Organization of American States advisers, on the assistance they have given and the efficiency with which they have done their work.

4. To express its thanks to the press for the coverage it was able to give to this meeting and its important contribution to the development of our peoples.

Having approved the foregoing resolutions, the Special Meeting of the Inter-American Cultural Council at the Ministerial Level agreed, at the plenary session held on August 9, 1963, that, in the event that the recommendation contained in point A.14 of Resolution I, for Reorganizing the Inter-American Cultural Council and the Services of Education, Science, and Culture of the Organization of American States, is approved, the following countries shall be invited "individually to accredit a person to collaborate with the members in the work of the Committee for Cultural Action": Bolivia, Colombia, Nicaragua and Venezuela.

Bogotá, D.E., Colombia
August 10, 1963

NAMES OF THE CHIEFS OF DELEGATION
WHO SIGNED THE FINAL ACT

FOR BOLIVIA:

(S) Mario V. Guzmán Galarza

FOR PARAGUAY:

(S) J. Bernardino Gorostiaga

FOR MEXICO:

(S) Jaime Torres Bodet

FOR PERU:

(S) Carlos Cueto Fernandini

FOR THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:

(S) Buenaventura Sánchez Féliz

FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

(S) Lucius D. Battle

FOR VENEZUELA:

(S) Reinaldo Leandro Mora

FOR GUATEMALA:

(S) Rolando Chinchilla Aguilar

FOR EL SALVADOR:

(S) Ernesto Revelo Borja

FOR NICARAGUA:

(S) Gonzalo Meneses Ocón

FOR HONDURAS:

(S) José Martínez Ordóñez

FOR URUGUAY:

(S) Juan E. Pivel Devoto

FOR BRAZIL:

(S) Paulo de Tarso Santos

FOR ARGENTINA:

(S) Jorge Arana Tagle

FOR PANAMA:

(S) Rogelio Robles García

FOR CHILE:

(S) Humberto Henríquez Fröedden

FOR HAITI:

(S) Gérard Jean Baptiste

FOR ECUADOR:

(S) Humberto Vacas Gómez

FOR COSTA RICA:

(S) Ismael Antonio Vargas

FOR COLOMBIA:

(S) Pedro Gómez Valderrama

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

(In order of precedence)

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(In order of precedence)

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María Elba Gutiérrez, Directora de Relaciones Internacionales del Ministerio de Educación y Bellas Artes

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Alternate Representative

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João Gonçalves de Souza, Director of the Department of Technical Cooperation

Rafael Squirru, Director of the Department of Cultural Affairs

Santiago Ortiz, Director of the Office of Council and Conference Secretariat Services (Secretary of the Meeting)

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